

**SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 15**

(By Senators Foster, Klempa and Yost)

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6 Requesting the Joint Committee on Government and Finance to study

7 the need to improve the awareness and usage of residential

8 fire sprinklers in West Virginia to provide better fire

9 protection to the residents of our state.

10 Whereas, More than 3,000 fire deaths occur every year in the

11 United States; and

12 Whereas, The fire problem in the U.S. is overwhelmingly a home

13 fire problem - 80% of all fire deaths in 2006 occurred in the home;

14 and

15 Whereas, Any improvements in overall fire safety must be

16 improvements in home fire safety, and no strategy has as much

17 documented life safety effectiveness as installed fire sprinklers;

18 and

19 Whereas, Fire sprinklers respond to a fire while it is still

20 small to control the spread of deadly heat, flames and toxic smoke,

21 and give families time to escape; and

22 Whereas, Fire sprinklers work so effectively they often put

23 out a fire before the fire department arrives; and

24 Whereas, In Scottsdale, AZ, a 15-year study of home fire

25 sprinklers showed that the average loss per sprinklered fire

1 incident was \$2,166 compared to more than \$45,000 for unsprinklered  
2 homes; and

3       Whereas, Fire sprinklers offer a level of residential fire  
4 protection that no other fire safety technology can offer;  
5 therefore, be it

6       *Resolved by the Legislature of West Virginia:*

7       That the Joint Committee on Government and Finance is hereby  
8 requested to study the need to improve the awareness and usage of  
9 residential fire sprinklers in West Virginia to provide better fire  
10 protection to the residents of our state; and, be it

11       *Further Resolved,* That the Joint Committee on Government and  
12 Finance report to the regular session of the Legislature, 2012, on  
13 its findings, conclusions and recommendations, together with drafts  
14 of any legislation necessary to effectuate its recommendations;  
15 and, be it

16       *Further Resolved,* That the expenses necessary to conduct this  
17 study, to prepare a report and to draft necessary legislation be  
18 paid from legislative appropriations to the Joint Committee on  
19 Government and Finance.